

1 KELLER BENVENUTTI KIM LLP
Jane Kim (#298192)
2 (jkim@kbkllp.com)
David A. Taylor (#247433)
3 (dtaylor@kbkllp.com)
Thomas B. Rupp (#278041)
4 (trupp@kbkllp.com)
650 California Street, Suite 1900
5 San Francisco, CA 94108
Tel: 415 496 6723
6 Fax: 650 636 9251

7 *Attorneys for Debtors and Reorganized Debtors*

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9 **UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT**
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
10 **SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION**

11
12 **In re:**

13 **PG&E CORPORATION,**

14 **- and -**

15 **PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC**
16 **COMPANY,**

17 **Debtors.**

- 18 ☐ Affects PG&E Corporation
19 ☐ Affects Pacific Gas and Electric Company
20 ☒ Affects both Debtors

21 ** All papers shall be filed in the Lead Case, No.*
22 *19-30088 (DM).*

Bankruptcy Case No. 19-30088 (DM)

Chapter 11

(Lead Case) (Jointly Administered)

**MOTION TO REDACT DOCUMENTS
FILED IN SUPPORT OF REORGANIZED
DEBTORS' OMNIBUS OBJECTION TO
CLAIMS**

[No Hearing Requested]

PG&E Corporation (“**PG&E Corp.**”) and Pacific Gas and Electric Company (the “**Utility**”), as debtors and reorganized debtors (collectively, the “**Debtors**,” or as reorganized pursuant to the Plan (as defined below), the “**Reorganized Debtors**”) in the above-captioned chapter 11 cases (the “**Chapter 11 Cases**”), hereby submit this Motion (the “**Motion**”), pursuant to sections 105(a) and 107(c) of title 11 of the United States Code (the “**Bankruptcy Code**”), Rule 1001-2(a) of the Bankruptcy Local Rules for the United States District Court for the Northern District of California (the “**Bankruptcy Local Rules**”) and the *Procedures for Filing Redacted or Sealed Confidential or Highly Sensitive Documents* adopted by the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of California (the “**Local Procedures**”), for entry of an order (a) authorizing the Reorganized Debtors to redact the names, addresses, and Claim numbers of the Reorganized Debtors’ current or former employees (the “**Personal Information**”) contained in **Exhibit 1** to the *Reorganized Debtors’ One Hundred Fourth Omnibus Objection to Claims (ADR No Liability Claims)* (the “**Omnibus Objection**”)¹ from the Omnibus Objection and any other document filed publicly in connection with the Omnibus Objection, except as specified below, (collectively, the “**Omnibus Objection Documents**”) and (b) directing that the unredacted copies of the Omnibus Objection Documents provided to the Court shall remain under seal and confidential and not be made available without the consent of the Reorganized Debtors or further order from the Court. The Reorganized Debtors propose to share, on request, unredacted copies of the Omnibus Objection Documents containing Personal Information with the U.S. Trustee on a strictly confidential basis.

In support of the Motion, the Debtors submit the Declaration of A. Anna Capelle (the “**Capelle Declaration**”), filed contemporaneously herewith. A proposed form of order granting the relief requested herein is being uploaded concurrently herewith in accordance with the Local Procedures (the “**Proposed Order**”).

MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

I. JURISDICTION

This Court has jurisdiction over this Objection under 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334; the *Order Referring Bankruptcy Cases and Proceedings to Bankruptcy Judges*, General Order 24 (N.D. Cal.); and

¹ Capitalized terms used but not defined in this Motion shall have the meaning used in the Omnibus Objection.

1 Rule 5011-1(a) of the Bankruptcy Local Rules for the United States District Court for the Northern
2 District of California (the “**Bankruptcy Local Rules**”). This matter is a core proceeding pursuant to 28
3 U.S.C. § 157(b). Venue is proper before this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409. The
4 statutory predicates for the relief requested are section 502 of Title 11 of the United States Code (the
5 “**Bankruptcy Code**”) and Rule 3007 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the “**Bankruptcy**
6 **Rules**”).

7 **II. BACKGROUND**

8 On January 29, 2019 (the “**Petition Date**”), the Debtors commenced with the Court voluntary
9 cases under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. Prior to the Effective Date (as defined below), the
10 Debtors continued to operate their businesses and manage their properties as debtors in possession
11 pursuant to sections 1107(a) and 1108 of the Bankruptcy Code. No trustee or examiner was appointed
12 in either of the Chapter 11 Cases. The Chapter 11 Cases are being jointly administered for procedural
13 purposes only pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 1015(b).

14 Additional information regarding the circumstances leading to the commencement of the
15 Chapter 11 Cases and information regarding the Debtors’ businesses and capital structure is set forth in
16 the *Amended Declaration of Jason P. Wells in Support of the First Day Motions and Related Relief*
17 [Docket No. 263].

18 **III. THE OMNIBUS OBJECTION**

19 **Exhibit 1** to the Omnibus Objection (the “**Redacted Exhibit**”) contains the names, contact
20 information, and Claim numbers (collectively, the “**Personal Information**”) for a number of current and
21 former employees of the Reorganized Debtors (the “**Redacted Claimants**”) who have pending Claims,
22 many of which are directly connected with their prior or current employment with the Reorganized
23 Debtors.

24 Out of concern for the privacy and safety of their employees, the Reorganized Debtors seek to
25 avoid publicly disclosing the names, addresses, and Claim numbers of the Redacted Claimants on the
26 Redacted Exhibits to the Omnibus Objection, or on other publicly filed Omnibus Objection Documents
27 where the Redacted Claimants’ names and addresses appear, including on the certificates of service filed
28 by Prime Clerk in relation to the Omnibus Objection and any order entered by the Court in respect of the

1 Omnibus Objection. While the Personal Information may otherwise be publicly available in other
2 contexts and filings, both in these Chapter 11 Cases and in other forums, disclosure of the Personal
3 Information in the Omnibus Objection Documents will directly connect the Redacted Claimants' name
4 and address to their current or former employment status with the Reorganized Debtors, and may give
5 rise to the harm discussed below.

6 The Reorganized Debtors have made a commitment to their employees to keep their information
7 confidential. The Reorganized Debtors want to avoid providing contact information for their employees
8 lest that information be used by members of the public to initiate unwanted contact. Furthermore, such
9 information could be used, among other things, to perpetrate identity theft or to locate survivors of
10 domestic violence, harassment, or stalking.

11 However, the commitment of the Reorganized Debtors to keeping employee information
12 confidential must be weighed against the practicality of actively litigating a Claim with the identity of
13 the Claimant perpetually redacted, where the Claimant has made such information public. Accordingly,
14 to the extent a Claimant files an unredacted opposition or response to an Omnibus Objection that includes
15 their name or Claim number, the Reorganized Debtors request that they be excused from redacting from
16 subsequent filings such name or Claim number. The Reorganized Debtors will continue to redact the
17 address and other contact information of the Redacted Claimant and keep such information confidential
18 regardless of whether the Redacted Claimant discloses such information in a public filing.

19 **IV. ARGUMENT**

20 Section 105(a) of the Bankruptcy Code empowers the Court to "issue any order . . . that is
21 necessary or appropriate to carry out the provisions of this title." 11 U.S.C. § 105(a). Section 107(c)
22 of the Bankruptcy Code further provides:

23 (1) The bankruptcy court, for cause, may protect an individual, with respect to the
24 following types of information to the extent the court finds that disclosure of such
25 information would create undue risk of identity theft or other unlawful injury to the
individual or the individual's property:

26 (A) Any means of identification (as defined in section 1028(d) of title 18)
27 contained in a paper filed, or to be filed, in a case under this title.

28 (B) Other information contained in a paper described in subparagraph (A).

1 11 U.S.C. § 107(c).

2 The Personal Information clearly falls within the definition of “any means of identification” in
3 section 107(c)(1)(A). “Means of identification” is defined by section 1028(d)(7) of title 18 of the United
4 States Code as “any name or number that may be used, alone or in conjunction with any other
5 information, to identify a specific individual . . . including any name.” Further to this, the effect of
6 section 107(c)(1)(B) is to expand the scope of information which may be protected from disclosure to
7 any other information in a paper which contains a means of identification. *See, e.g., In re Motions*
8 *Seeking Access to 2019 Statements*, 585 B.R. 733, 750 (D. Del. 2018). The Delaware District Court
9 there confirmed that a risk to privacy interests is an “unlawful injury” for the purposes of section 107(c)
10 of the Bankruptcy Code, and even if steps were taken to “reduce[] the risk of identity theft or other
11 injury” through the redaction of medical records and all but the last four digits of social security numbers,
12 it did not “eliminate these risks.” *2019 Statements*, 585 B.R. at 753.

13 Here, the Reorganized Debtors seek to protect their employees from the risk of unsolicited
14 contact that may be perceived as intrusive or harassing as a result of their connection to the Reorganized
15 Debtors or from the risk of identity theft, domestic violence, or stalking. Given the risk of unwanted
16 contact and intrusion into the privacy of the Claimants, the Reorganized Debtors believe that they have
17 satisfied their burden under Section 107(c). *See 2019 Statements*, 585 B.R. at 751 (noting that
18 Section 107(c) only requires identifying a risk of unlawful injury). The Court has previously authorized
19 the Reorganized Debtors to seal or otherwise withhold such employee personal information for the same
20 reasons stated here. *See, e.g., Order Granting Motion to Redact Documents Filed in Support of*
21 *Reorganized Debtors’ Sixty-Seventh Omnibus Objection to Claims (Plan Passthrough Workers’*
22 *Compensation Claims)* [Dkt. 10353]; *Order Granting Motion to Redact Documents Filed in Support of*
23 *Reorganized Debtors’ Omnibus Objections to Claims* [Dkt. 10832]; and *Order Granting Motion to*
24 *Redact Documents Filed in Support of Reorganized Debtors’ Omnibus Objection to Claims*
25 [Dkt. 11137].

26 Further, in an effort to balance the risk of harm with transparency, the Reorganized Debtors are
27 prepared to file unredacted copies of the Omnibus Objection Documents with the Court under seal
28

1 according to the Local Procedures and propose to share, on request, unredacted copies of the Omnibus
2 Objection Documents with the U.S. Trustee on a strictly confidential basis.

3 **V. NOTICE**

4 Notice of this Motion will be provided to (i) the Office of the U.S. Trustee for Region 17 (Attn:
5 Andrew R. Vara, Esq. and Timothy Laffredi, Esq.); (ii) all counsel and parties receiving electronic notice
6 through the Court's electronic case filing system; and (iii) those persons who have formally appeared in
7 these Chapter 11 Cases and requested service pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 2002. The Reorganized
8 Debtors respectfully submit that no further notice is required. No previous request for the relief sought
9 herein has been made by the Reorganized Debtors to this or any other Court.

10 WHEREFORE the Reorganized Debtors respectfully request entry of an order granting the relief
11 requested herein and such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and appropriate.

12 Dated: September 9, 2021

KELLER BENVENUTTI KIM LLP

13 By: /s/ Thomas B. Rupp
14 Thomas B. Rupp

15 *Attorneys for Debtors and Reorganized Debtors*
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